

BRIDGNORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT



of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1962.

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Correction

Page 7 - Premises receiving water
from Public Piped Supplies at
31st March, 1963.

(a) The figures for Worfield parish
should read:-

Worfield	(Civilian	216
	(R.A.F. Houses	180
	(R.A.F. Camp	1

(b) The total of all properties
should read:- 2,192

A faint, light-colored watermark of a classical building with four columns and a pediment is visible in the background of the page.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	-	Margaret H. F. Turnbull M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	-	D. A. Pamphilon Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	-	J. Stocker Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

CONTENTS OF THE REPORT

SECTION	A	-	Statistics.
"	B	-	General Provision of Health Services.
"	C	-	Sanitary Circumstances in the Area.
"	D	-	Housing.
"	E	-	Food - Inspection and Supervision.
"	F	-	Infectious Diseases.

BRIDGNORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Westgate,
Bridgnorth.

November, 1963.

To the Chairman and Councillors,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1962. As in previous years, the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. D. A. Pamphilon, has been entirely responsible for the preparation of Sections, 'C', 'D' and 'E'.

Brief reference to some of the main points in the various sections may be helpful by way of introduction.

1. As judged by the statistics, the health of the District remained satisfactory during the year.

The Birth Rate and Death Rate approximate closely to the average for England and Wales, and the Still Birth Rate is considerably lower than the average. The Infant Mortality Rate is higher than in 1961 and appears disappointingly high when compared with the average for the whole country. Too much significance should not be attached to this however, as this Rate is liable to wide annual fluctuations in any area with a small population.

2. The District remained remarkably free from the notifiable Infectious Diseases. Only 48 notifications were received during the twelve months - the lowest total for 8 years.

3. The proposed Joint High Level Water Supply Scheme received Ministry approval following an Enquiry, and negotiations for the acquisition of sites for reservoirs were instituted.

The final mains in the Low Level Scheme were laid during the year.

4. Stage III of the Highley Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme was completed, and work commenced on the Alveley Scheme. Progress on the Hilton Scheme was hampered by difficulties in finding a site which is suitable in all respects.

5. 8 Council houses were completed during the year at Highley and a further 12 houses and 6 bungalows were due to be commenced in 1963.

Further building at Alveley and Hilton awaits the completion of the sewerage schemes for these villages.

6. Good progress was made on the comprehensive Survey of the District which was started in 1961. When completed this will give details on the conditions and amenities of every house in the District and should prove to be most valuable to the Council when formulating future policy.

7. A record number of 4,143 visits and inspections was made by the Public Health Inspectors in 1962. This represents an increase of 1,211 over the total for 1961. As will be seen from the details in Section 'E', visits in connection with the Survey and on Meat Inspection together accounted for 3,004 of the total number.

In conclusion, I should like to express my appreciation to all those who have assisted in the preparation of this Report, and in particular to Mr. D. A. Pamphilon, Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. J. Stocker, Additional Public Health Inspector, and Mrs. M. Walker, our Clerical Assistant. Their willing co-operation and help in all matters throughout the year is also gratefully acknowledged.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

Margaret H. F. Turnbull,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONSGENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District in acres	100,897
Estimated Population (Mid-1962)	16,130
Number of Inhabited Houses (at 31:12:62)	4,336
Rateable Value of the District (at 31: 5:63)	£138,182
Estimated Product of d. Rate (at 31: 3:63)	£555

VITAL STATISTICS1. POPULATION

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the area at mid-1962 was 16,130, an increase of 1,030 on the corresponding estimate for 1961.

The natural increase in population for the year, i.e. the difference between the number of deaths and the number of live births, was 89.

ESTIMATED MID-YEAR POPULATION - 1950-1962.

Year	Mid-Year Population	Natural Increase
1950	16,580	92
1951	16,590	83
1952	16,510	89
1953	16,540	104
1954	16,180	108
1955	16,100	108
1956	17,010	69
1957	16,720	107
1958	17,080	100
1959	17,190	111
1960	17,600	86
1961	15,100	78
1962	16,130	89

2. BIRTHS(a) Live BirthsLIVE BIRTHS 1962.

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total Live Births
Male	110	2	112
Female	112	4	116
Total	222	6	228
Rate per 1,000 of Population	13.8	0.4	14.1

Crude Birth Rate, per 1,000 of population - 14.1
 Standardised Birth Rate, per 1,000 of population - 17.4
 Birth Rate for England and Wales, 1962 - 18.0

There were 228 live births in the area during 1962 - 17 more than in 1961. Of the 228, 6 were illegitimate (2.6%).

The Standardised Birth Rate for the year was 17.4 per 1,000 of the population. This is almost the same as that for 1961, and is just a little lower than the national average for 1962 of 18 births per 1,000 of population.

LIVE BIRTHS 1950-1962

Year	No. of live births	No. of illegitimate live births	Standardised Birth-Rate per 1,000 of population
1950	210	10	14.2
1951	220	2	18.4
1952	227	*	19.0
1953	234	10	19.8
1954	229	6	17.6
1955	232	10	17.9
1956	206	4	15.0
1957	226	14	16.6
1958	229	9	16.5
1959	233	7	16.7
1960	213	8	14.9
1961	211	4	17.2
1962	228	6	17.4

* Figure not available

(b) Still Births.

STILL BIRTHS 1962

Male	2
Female	1
Total	3

Still-Birth Rate, per 1,000 total births - 13.0
 Still-Birth Rate, England and Wales 1962 - 18.1

There were 3 still-births in the District during the year, 2 less than in 1961.

The Still-Birth Rate, per 1,000 total births (i.e. live-births and still-births combined) was 13.0, which is well below the national figure of 18.1.

Wide annual variations in this Rate are liable to occur in areas of small population as may be seen from the last column in the Table below.

STILL-BIRTHS 1950-1962

Year	No. of live births	No. of still births	Still Birth-Rate per 1,000 total births
1950	210	2	9.4
1951	220	3	13.0
1952	227	4	17.3
1953	234	4	16.7
1954	229	4	17.2
1955	232	4	16.9
1956	206	4	19.0
1957	226	4	17.0
1958	229	8	33.8
1959	233	2	8.5
1960	213	3	13.9
1961	211	5	23.1
1962	228	5	13.0

3. DEATHS

Male	-	73
Female	-	66
Total	-	139

Crude Death Rate, per 1,000 of population	-	8.6
Standardised Death Rate, per 1,000 of population	-	11.0
Death Rate for England and Wales, 1962	-	11.9

There were 139 deaths in the District in 1962 - an increase of 6 on the total for 1961. Of these, 65 (46.8%) were due to conditions affecting the Heart or Circulation, and 28 (20.1%) to Malignant Disease. Five of the deaths from Malignant Disease were due to Cancer of the Lung.

The Standardised Death Rate, per 1,000 of the population was 11.0, which is the second highest figure to be recorded for this District during the past 13 years. It still falls below the average Death Rate for England and Wales for 1962 however, which was 11.9 per 1,000 of the population.

DEATHS 1950-1962

Year	No. of deaths	Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 of population
1950	118	8.5
1951	137	9.3
1952	138	9.7
1953	130	9.3
1954	121	8.9
1955	124	9.1
1956	137	10.4
1957	119	9.1
1958	129	9.7
1959	122	9.1
1960	127	9.2
1961	133	11.3
1962	139	11.0

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1962

The Registrar-General's annual return gives the causes of death in the area during 1962 as follows:-

		Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis - respiratory	..	1	-	1
2. Tuberculosis - other	..	..	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	..	..	-	-
4. Diphtheria	..	..	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	..	..	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	..	..	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	-	-
8. Measles	..	..	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases		-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm - stomach	..	1	4	5
11. Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	..	5	-	5
12. Malignant neoplasm - breast	..	-	3	3
13. Malignant neoplasm - uterus	..	-	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	4	13	13
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	..	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	13	9	22
18. Coronary disease, angina	..	13	6	19
19. Hypertension with heart disease	..	-	3	3
20. Other heart diseases	..	6	9	15
21. Other circulatory diseases	..	3	3	6
22. Influenza..	..	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia..	..	2	4	6
24. Bronchitis	..	2	4	6
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	..	2	-	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	-	1	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	2	1	3
28. Nephritis and nephrosis..	..	1	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate..	..	2	-	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	..	-	4	4
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	7	11	11
33. Motor vehicle accidents..	..	4	1	5
34. All other accidents	..	2	-	2
35. Suicide	..	1	1	2
36. Homicide and operations of war..	..	73	66	139

4. INFANT MORTALITY.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE, 1962

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Male	4	-	4
Female	4	-	4
Total	8	-	8

Infant Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births - 35.1

Infant Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births

(England and Wales 1962) - 20.7

Of the 228 babies born alive during the year, 8 did not survive the first twelve months of life. Of these, 3 died during their first week.

The Infant Mortality Rate for 1962 was therefore 35.1 per 1,000 live births which is considerably higher than the national average figure of 20.7, and higher than our own figure for 1961 of 23.7.

As with the Still-Birth Rate however, considerable annual fluctuations are liable to occur in areas with a small population.

INFANT MORTALITY 1950-1962

(1) Year	(2) Number of Live Births	(3)		(4) Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	(5) ** Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births
		No. of Infant Deaths Under 1 yr	No. of Infant Deaths Under 4 wks		
1950	210	8	7	38.1	33.3
1951	220	3	*	13.6	*
1952	227	7	*	30.8	*
1953	234	6	4	25.5	17.1
1954	229	3	2	13.1	8.7
1955	232	4	2	17.2	8.6
1956	206	7	5	34.0	24.3
1957	226	6	6	26.5	26.5
1958	229	7	2	30.6	8.7
1959	233	2	1	8.6	4.3
1960	213	9	7	42.2	32.9
1961	211	5	5	23.7	23.7
1962	228	8	3	35.1	13.1

* Figures not available

** Refers to deaths occurring during the first month of life.

5. MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were again no deaths related to pregnancy or childbirth in 1962, this being the eighth successive year with no maternal mortality. Since 1950, there have only been two maternal deaths, one in 1953 and one in 1954.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. HOSPITAL AND SPECIALIST SERVICES.

The hospitals in the area are administered by Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, through its Hospital Management Committees.

The general hospitals most easily accessible to inhabitants of the Rural District are those at Bridgnorth, Kidderminster, Shrewsbury and Wolverhampton. All provide out-patient and in-patient treatment.

Infectious Disease cases are admitted to the isolation hospitals at Wolverhampton or Shrewsbury.

Since the closure of Shirlett Sanatorium in March, 1961, tuberculosis sufferers have been treated at Copthorne Hospital or Cross Houses Hospital.

The chronic sick requiring hospital treatment are generally admitted to New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton, East Hamlet Hospital, Ludlow or Shifnal Hospital.

2. GENERAL MEDICAL, DENTAL, PHARMACEUTICAL AND SUPPLEMENTARY OPHTHALMIC SERVICES.

These services are administered by the Salop Executive Council, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury.

3. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES.

Salop County Council, as Local Health Authority, is responsible for the provision and administration of the following services:-

Health Centres (None in this area).
Care of mothers and young children.
Domiciliary Midwifery.
Health Visiting.
Home Nursing.
Vaccination and Immunisation.
Ambulance Services.
Prevention of illness, care and after-care.
Domestic Help Service.

(a) Child Welfare.

In January 1962 the Highley Child Welfare Clinic was transferred from the Miners' Welfare Annexe to the new Highley Youth Club building. The new premises are ideal for the purpose, and the attendances of mothers and babies continue to be excellent. The Clinic is held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in each month from 1.30 - 4.30 p.m.

Other clinics accessible to those in parts of the Rural District are held, at weekly or fortnightly intervals, at Bridgnorth, Cleobury Mortimer and Much Wenlock.

(b) Welfare Foods.

The National Welfare Foods (National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod-Liver oil, and Vitamin 'A' and 'D' tablets) are available at the Welfare Centres during Clinic hours, and at various conveniently situated distribution-points throughout the district.

(c) Health Visiting, Home Nursing, Domiciliary Midwifery.

One full-time Health Visitor serves a large part of the District adjacent to Bridgnorth, and Health Visiting in other parts of the area is undertaken by the local District-Nurse Midwives in addition to their other duties.

Two District-Nurse Midwives are stationed in the Rural District - one at Highley, and one at Hilton. The rest of the District is served by Nurses based outside its area.

(d) Vaccination and Immunisation.

Under the County Council's Scheme, Vaccination against Smallpox, and Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping-Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis may be carried out by arrangements with a general practitioner or at any Child Welfare Centre.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered each year to all children aged 11 - 13 years who are found by preliminary testing to require this protection. Only very few parents refuse their consent for this procedure, which is carried out at the schools.

(e) Ambulance Service.

The Central Ambulance Department for the County is in Shrewsbury (Telephone No. Shrewsbury 6331) to which all requests for an ambulance should be made. Two ambulances and a car for sitting cases are stationed in Bridgnorth for use on local journeys.

(f) Domestic Help Service.

The service of a domestic help is available, in the words of the Act, for "any person who is ill, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age". Enquiries regarding this service are dealt with at the Domestic Help Office, Bridgnorth Welfare Centre (Telephone No. Bridgnorth 3078) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 2.15 and 4.30 p.m.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

The Senior Public Health Inspector reports as follows:-

WATER SUPPLIESCOMPREHENSIVE SCHEMES.1. JOINT HIGH LEVEL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME.

The above scheme is one which is to be entered into jointly by the Ludlow and Bridgnorth R.D.Cs. It is now proposed that a bulk supply of water will be taken from the Elan Aqueduct and be distributed, after being pumped to a reservoir, by gravity to the High Level areas of 16 parishes in the West of the district.

The Council have negotiated this scheme with the Ludlow R.D.C. for some years, realising the urgent need to afford the area with a piped water supply.

A Ministry inquiry into the scheme was held during the year and Ministry approval was received.

Progress was made in negotiating suitable sites for the various reservoirs which will be needed.

2. LOW LEVEL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME.

Main laying was completed during the year in respect of this scheme which now serves properties in 20 parishes.

Many persons now have the advantage of pure piped water in their homes with all its attendant advantages and amenities. However, there are still properties which though capable of receiving a supply are not taking advantage of it. It is hoped that as a result of the survey now taking place it will be evident which houses can be expected to connect to the mains when appropriate action can be taken by the Council.

3. CLAVERLEY, WORFIELD AND RUDGE.

These parishes are within the Statutory area of the Wolverhampton Water Undertaking and the main centres of population are well served.

Reports from the Wolverhampton Water Engineer show that water supplied to the district is chlorinated, and bacteriological sampling has proved the supply to be satisfactory.

PREMISES RECEIVING WATER FROM PUBLIC PIPED SUPPLIES AT 31ST MARCH, 1963.

	<u>No. of Premises</u>	
	<u>Direct Supply</u>	<u>Standpipes</u>
Acton Round	6	-
Alveley	225	7
Astley Abbotts	75	-
Aston Botterell	5	-
Billingsley	26	-
Chelmarsh	78	-
Chetton	19	-
Claverley	316	-
Deuxhill	6	-
Eardington	69	-
Glazeley	13	-
Highley	583	-
Kinlet	106	-
Middleton Scriven	7	-
Morville	27	-
Neen Savage	49	-
Romsley	11	-
Sidbury	2	-
Stottesdon	116	-
Tasley	56	-
Worfield (R.A.F. Houses	216	-
Worfield (R.A.F. Camp	1	-
	<u>2,012</u>	<u>7</u>

PURITY OF SUPPLIES.

(a) MAINS SUPPLIES.

All water now supplied to the district is received from the Birmingham and Wolverhampton Water Undertakings.

The Birmingham water is supplied to the Low Level Schemes from the Elan Aqueduct and is chlorinated at five chlorinator houses as it enters the mains for distribution.

Wolverhampton water is from boreholes where it is chlorinated and distributed to the parishes of Claverley, Worfield and Rudge.

Regular sampling of the water throughout the system is carried out to ensure that the chlorination has been effective and that no pollution has occurred in the course of distribution.

Samples are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Shrewsbury for bacteriological analysis. A summary of the reports received during 1962 is as follows:-

	<u>Public Mains</u>	<u>Elan Aqueduct</u>
Highly satisfactory	75	20
Not entirely satisfactory	2	5
Unsatisfactory	11	1

The regular sampling of the mains water supplies in the district is an essential routine which is carried out to ensure the efficiency of the system.

(b) PRIVATE SUPPLIES, WELLS AND SPRINGS ETC.

Private water supplies sampled during the year were generally found to be of poor quality. Of 31 samples submitted for analysis, 20 were unsatisfactory.

Generally speaking, experience has shown that private supplies from shallow wells and springs cannot be relied on to provide consistently good bacteriological samples. Nevertheless such supplies are still used by many people in the area, and only by the Council pursuing their policy of providing mains water supplies to as much of the area as is practicable, will the position be improved.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

In 1960 the Council gave consideration to the need for providing sewerage schemes in various villages and hamlets, and formulated a tentative programme whereby such schemes would be considered in some 12 cases.

It is, therefore, disappointing to record that the only scheme to have been commenced is in Alveley, and it is hoped that schemes now in preparation for Hilton, Morville and Stottesdon will soon follow.

The longer these villages are left without sewerage schemes, the more people are resorting to the use of septic tanks, which in villages where houses are in close proximity cannot be commended for the future.

PARISH REPORTS.

Alveley: Work was commenced during the year on the first stage of a scheme for the village which will no doubt relieve many drainage nuisances now existing and will allow improvements to be carried out to properties in the village.

The second stage of this scheme, though not yet programmed, will sewer an area of more modern development, namely the Woodlands Estate, which is at present served by septic tanks. It is to be hoped that it will be possible for this second stage to follow on as soon as possible, as disposal of these effluents occasionally gives rise to nuisance owing to the heavy nature of the sub-soil in this area.

Highley: The third stage of the scheme for the village was completed during the year thus enabling all sewage to be treated in one central works.

Hilton: Little progress has been made with this scheme, principally due to the Council being unable to find a site which is practical and free from objectors' criticisms.

Morville: Again little progress has been made with regard to this scheme.

REFUSE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The Council continued to collect refuse from all parishes by direct labour throughout the year. A weekly collection is made in the more densely populated areas, and a fortnightly collection in the outlying areas. It is, of course, impracticable to collect from certain isolated and/or inaccessible properties.

Refuse is disposed of by semi-controlled tipping, the tips being situated at Highley, Alveley, and Ditton Priors. A former mine shaft at Kinlet is also used for tipping.

The collection and disposal of household refuse is becoming increasingly more difficult due to the gradual change which has occurred in the composition of refuse. The amount of paper, cartons and food packages resulting from modern merchandising has now increased to such an extent that vehicles carry less by weight (unless some system of compressing the refuse is used) and tips are filled faster, with an increased danger of fires on the tips.

If the Council are to continue disposing of refuse by tipping, it is felt that steps should now be taken to acquire a tip more central to the district where a full time tip-attendant, using modern earth-moving equipment, could be employed. If refuse is to be disposed of by tipping it must be controlled and covered each day. A tip badly controlled is unsightly, a constant source of nuisance from flies, rats etc., and a danger to health.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

The Council is responsible, by the provisions of part I of the Factories Act, 1961 for ensuring the adequacy and suitability of sanitary conveniences in all factories in the district, and in the case of factories in which mechanical power is not used, is also responsible for inspecting the premises to ensure that working conditions are satisfactory.

At the end of 1962 there were 27 factories on the register, all using mechanical power.

A total of 12 inspections of factories were made during the year, when 3 defects were found. (See appendix at the end of the Report).

The Act also gives the Council the responsibility for ensuring that premises in which any persons are employed as out-workers are not injurious or dangerous to health.

The Factories Act, 1961 came into force on the 1st April, 1962. This Act consolidates the Factories Act of 1937 to 1959 and certain other enactments.

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956.

Sections 3 and 5 of the above Act place a duty on Local Authorities in connection with the provisions of sanitary conveniences on farms where agricultural workers are employed.

Specific visits are not made to agricultural holdings for this purpose, but when such premises are visited, the subject is borne in mind. On no occasion has it been found necessary to serve notices, the desired result being obtained by an informal talk with the farmer concerned.

PEST CONTROL.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, requires a Local Authority to inspect all premises in their district, and to ensure that any infestations of rats and mice are dealt with either by the Authority or by the occupier in the case of trade and agricultural premises.

In addition to the routine inspection of the district, the Rodent Operative answers numerous requests from householders and tradespeople during the course of the year. In addition to this work, all those sewers maintained by the Council are inspected and test-baited, disinfestation treatments being carried out where necessary.

The service is extensively used in controlling rat infestations on Council tips, and fly infestations on tips and around sewage works.

The following table shows the work carried out during the year:-

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All other, including Business etc	Agricultural
No. of properties in district	30	3,140	561	1,051
No. of properties surveyed	30	2,251	125	688
Treatments carried out	13	227	15	268

Reports were received during the year that there had been cases in the Country of rats showing resistance to warfarin. Tests carried out by the Rodent Operative have shown that this was not the case in this district, and very effective results are still being obtained.

CARAVANS AND CARAVAN CONTROL.

The control of caravans has again taken up much of the Department's time, but it is pleasing to note the great improvements in layouts of sites and amenities which have resulted from this work. Much work in this direction still remains to be completed, but it is hoped that the high standards obtained on sites in the district will be satisfactory for many years to come.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

The following list shows the nature of inspections and visits made by the Public Health Department and is a guide to where the main efforts have been.

It should be noted that in addition to the visits entailed on meat inspection, a concentration of effort has been made to complete as much of the Housing Survey as possible. This, of course, has meant that other work, such as visits to food shops, factories, etc., has not received the attention one would wish.

Housing	- Public Health Act	41
	- Housing Act	71
	- Rent Act	4
	- Applications	49
	- Miscellaneous	27
	- Revisits to property	38
	- Interviews with owners etc.	25
	- Drainage	65
Complaints		83
Tips		25
Water supply	- General	33
	- Samples	163
Rodent Control	- Domestic	14
	- Trade	5
	- Farms	83
Verminous premises		6
Factories Act		12
Meat Inspection	- Slaughterhouses	1,259
Food and Drugs	- Catering	22
	- Retail shops	36
	- Licensed premises	36
	- Butchers	19
	- Fried fish shops	1
	- Bakehouses	4
	- Ice-cream	4
	- Ice-cream samples	24
	- Milk samples	1
	- Condemned foods	1
Swimming baths		6
Infectious diseases	- Enquiries	26
	- Houses disinfected	4
Offensive accumulations		2
Miscellaneous		46
Caravans		86
Caravan Sites		77
Survey of District		<u>1,745</u>
	Total	<u>4,143</u>

SURVEY OF THE COUNCIL'S HEALTH SERVICES.

As reported in last year's report, the Council authorised the commencement of a survey of the Council's Health Services and it is hoped that the survey will be completed in 1963.

When the survey is completed, a register will be available showing the condition and amenities of each house in the district. In addition, the sanitary services existing in the district will be reported on, and it is hoped the Council will find it useful in considering possible future amenities which may be required.

SWIMMING POOLS

There is one privately owned open-air swimming-pool in the area which is open to the public and used by organised parties of school children.

The water for the bath is supplied from a private borehole and is treated by chlorination, filtration and aeration. Samples taken over recent years have shown consistently good results.

6 Bacteriological samples were taken from the pool in 1962, all of which were satisfactory. Daily tests for free chlorine content are made by the owner.

HOUSING

Number of inhabited houses (31:12:62)	4,336
Number of Council owned houses (31:12:62)	498
Number of houses completed in 1962	
(a) Council	8
(b) Private	49
Number of applications for houses at 31:12:62	224
Number of houses under construction at 31:12:62	
(a) Council	Nil
(b) Private	75

The figures for Council-owned houses includes the agricultural hostels at Stottesdon and Morville converted some years ago into self-contained dwellings.

49 privately built houses were completed (as compared with 43 in 1961), and a further 75 were in course of construction at the 31st December, 1962. The total number of private dwellings built in the post-war years is 339 as compared with 442 built by the Council in the same period.

POST WAR COUNCIL HOUSE-BUILDING.

Parish	Completed in year ending 31:12:62	Under Construction at 31:12:62	Total Completed Post-War
Alveley	-	-	50
Chelmarsh	-	-	12
Chetton	-	-	6
Claverley	-	-	44
Ditton Priors	-	-	20
Eardington	-	-	16
Eudon George	-	-	6
Highley	8	-	136
Kinlet	-	-	14
Monkhopton	-	-	14
Morville	-	-	18*
Neen Savage	-	-	10
Neenton	-	-	8
Shipton	-	-	6
Stottesdon	-	-	15*
Tasley	-	-	6
Worfield	-	-	61
	8	<u>Nil</u>	442
Highley - Pre-war houses			56
Total of all houses..	..		<u>498</u>

(* Includes hostels converted into flats.)

FUTURE HOUSING PROGRAMME.

A further 40 houses and flats are to be built at Alveley, together with 12 houses at Hilton. Both these developments are awaiting sewerage schemes for the villages. The sewerage scheme at Alveley is in progress, but no start has been made at Hilton.

A further 12 houses and 6 bungalows are planned for commencement during 1963 in Highley.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS - (HOUSING ACT, 1949).

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Rejected</u>
a) No. of applications	17	16	1
b) No. of dwellings involved	23	22	1
No. of above applications approved in respect of Owner/Occupiers		-	1
Average total cost per dwelling approved		- £883	
Amount of grant paid stated as a %		- 50	

STANDARD GRANTS - (HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959).

No. of applications received and approved	- 15
No. of dwellings involved	- 15
Average cost per property	- £150

Many houses have been improved and given a further useful life by means of these grants, but other houses in the district are still in need of such treatment. It is clear that unless owners of these properties act now and carry out these much needed improvements and repairs, the number of houses in the demolition category will increase, creating a future liability for the Council. It is, therefore considered to be essential that the Council should continue to give every encouragement to owners to avail themselves of these grants.

UNFIT HOUSES.

During the year eight houses were dealt with under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957, two by Demolition Orders and six by Closing Orders. It is estimated from existing figures that approximately 130 houses remain to be dealt with, but it would appear that this figure will be increased considerably when the results of the survey now being made are known.

HOUSING ALLOCATION.

During the year 49 visits were made to the homes of housing applicants to investigate their living conditions and consider their suitability as Council house tenants.

At the end of 1962 there were 224 applications on the Council's housing list, but many of these were residing outside the district.

During the year 28 dwellings were allocated, the figure including eight new houses at Highley.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are now two licensed slaughterhouses in the district. One at Claverley is used by one butcher in conjunction with his shop, the other slaughterhouse at Eardington is used by ten butchers, seven of whom have their shops in neighbouring authorities' areas.

Both these premises complied with the regulations relating to construction and prevention of cruelty by the end of the year, as required under the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

All animals slaughtered at the slaughterhouses were inspected as soon as possible after slaughter, but until times of slaughter are controlled by the Minister, the ideal of immediate inspection will not be possible, and the occasional visits on Sundays and Bank Holidays will continue.

Meat inspection is continuing to take up a considerable amount of the Department's time, and the graph overleaf indicates how the number of animals slaughtered has increased over the years.

The number of animals slaughtered during 1962 resulted in the Council being able to forward a claim for a meat inspection grant to the Ministry.

This claim, though small, shows by the formulae laid down that the amount of meat inspected was more than was required for the district's population.

It is expected that this grant system will shortly be replaced, whereby Councils will be empowered to inspect all meat and make a charge per animal inspected.

The table below gives details of all carcases inspected and condemned at slaughterhouses in the district during 1962.

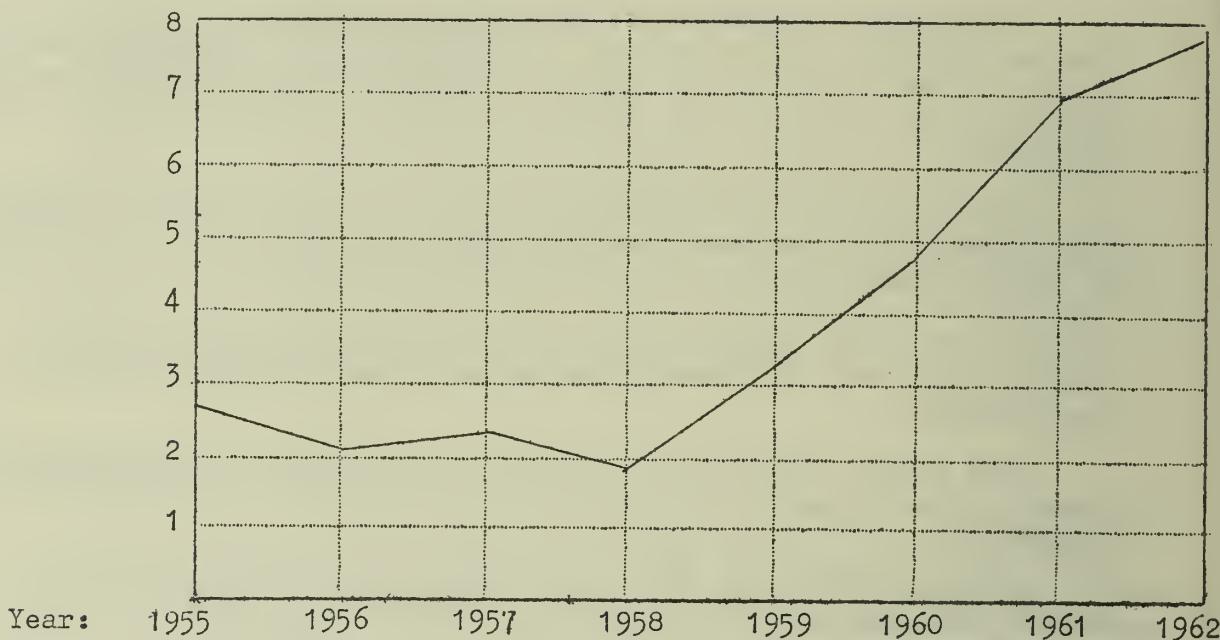
	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	978	3	92	4,873	1,938	Nil
Number inspected	978	3	92	4,873	1,938	Nil
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS						
Whole carcases condemned	1	Nil	1	1	8	Nil
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	43	Nil	1	4	45	Nil
Percentage of No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	4.5	Nil	2.17	.10	2.7	Nil
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcase condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	30	Nil
Percentage of No. inspected affected	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1.54	Nil
CYSTICERCOSIS						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised, and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The total amount of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption at the slaughterhouses during the year was 19 cwts. 15 lbs.

For the second consecutive year no cases of tuberculosis have been found in cattle or cows inspected in the slaughterhouses, and only 1.54% of pigs were found to be infected, a significant drop from last year.

GRAPH SHOWING NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED IN THE DISTRICT SINCE 1955.

No. of animals killed - in thousands



METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT

All meat condemned at the slaughterhouses is now removed by an approved knacker in accordance with the Meat (Staining and Sterilising) Regulations, 1960.

It was found necessary during the year to complain to the firm removing wastes from the slaughterhouse at Eardington regarding the method of transporting the wastes. This has now be satisfactorily overcome by the provision of galvanised bins.

FOOD HYGIENE

Fewer visits to premises were made during the year as will be seen from the list of 'Visits and Inspections'. This was occasioned by the Department concentrating on other work, but it is hoped that more frequent visits will be possible again in the near future.

Generally speaking, food handlers are well aware of the Food Hygiene Regulations but no doubt there are contraventions arising in methods of serving food when the Inspector is not present. Realising this, disappointment must again be expressed at the very few complaints received from the general public on this subject.

ICE-CREAM

By the end of the year there were 47 premises in the district registered for the sale of ice-cream. There are no manufacturers of ice-cream in the district, the product sold in each case being pre-wrapped.

23 samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, at Shrewsbury, during the year the results of which are detailed below:-

<u>Grade 1</u>	<u>Grade 2</u>	<u>Grade 3</u>	<u>Grade 4</u>
11	10	1	1

As a guide to interpreting the above results, it is suggested that over a six monthly period, 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80% into Grades 1 and 2, not more than 20% into Grade 3 and none into Grade 4.

FOOD PREMISES

a) The type of Food Premises in the area:

1. Butchers' shops	11
2. Fried fish shops	2
3. Bakehouses	4
4. Licensed premises	51
5. Licensed clubs	8
6. Catering premises	28
7. General provisions stores	42
8. School canteens - (without kitchen)	9
9. School canteens - (with kitchen)	6

b) Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

1. Manufacturers of preserved foods	8
2. Ice-cream dealers	47

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifications of Infectious Diseases received during 1962 were as follows:-

Measles	- 33
Acute Pneumonia	- 6
Food Poisoning	- 3
Scarlet Fever	- 2
Dysentery	- 2
Erysipelas	- 1
Respiratory Tuberculosis	- <u>1</u>
	<u>48</u>

The total is the lowest to be recorded for several years. This is chiefly due to the low incidence of Measles in 1962, and to the absence of Whooping Cough and other common childhood infections.

The three cases of Food Poisoning occurred in one family, and the illness was attributed to the consumption of corned beef. Laboratory investigations revealed that the remains of the meat was heavily infected with *Staphylococcus Aureus* of a virulent type, and the same organism was also isolated from faecal specimens from the patients. It seemed likely that the meat had become infected after removal from the tin and before consumption by the patients. The manufacturers of the product had tins of meat from the same batch examined bacteriologically, and these were found to be perfectly wholesome.

TUBERCULOSIS

Only one new case of Respiratory Tuberculosis was notified during 1962, and there were no fresh cases of other forms of the disease.

There was one death from Tuberculosis of the Lungs.

A total of 57 cases remained on the Register at 31st December, 1962 as compared with 60, twelve months previously.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
a) Factories in which Sections 1-4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
b) Factories not included in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	27	12	Nil	Nil
c) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total.....	27	12	Nil	Nil

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Overcrowding.....(S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Ineffective drainage of floors.....(S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)						
a) Insufficient.....	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
b) Unsuitable or defective	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Out-work).....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Total.....	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	

PART VIII OF THE ACT - OUTWORK
(SECTIONS 110 and 111)

No persons were notified as being outworkers during 1962.

